was held in 1996. Government proposes to continue it till the next SGPC elections due in 2001.

Pakistani Nationals Reporting to the Police Station

2831. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA :

SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistani Nationals visiting India are required to report their arrival to the nearest Police station as required under the Immigration Act;

(b) whether it is also fact that many Pak Nationals seldom or never report their arrival; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Governmcnt in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) As per existing instructions, all the Pakistani nationals, excepting those in possession of the Exempted from Police Reporting (EPR) visa, are required to report their arrival and intended departure to the neareset police station of the places of their visits. All the Pak nationals, excepting in rare cases, report their arrival and intended departure to the competent authorities. Instructions are issued to the State Governments and UT Administrations from time to time to detect and deport such Pak nationals who violate the law.

Pakistani Nationals by Samjhauta Express

2832. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA :

SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 50,000 Pakistani nationals who entered India by Samjhauta Express Train in the past few years never went back to their country as reported in Times of India of February 26,2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISETR OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) to (c) As per available information, as on 31-12-1999, 11433, and not 50,000, Pak nationals out of those who had come to India with valid travel documents since 1974, have not returned to

Pakistan. Majority of them might have come through Samjhauta Express. The Government of India are in constant touch with the State Governments and UT Administrations on the subject of tracing out of such Pak nationals and to deport them.

Formation of New States After Independence

2833. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many new States were formed after Independence;

(b) how many States got their new capitals;

(c) how many States are without any capital:

(d) what are the reasons for not providing capital to these States; and

(e) how many States are having joint Capital and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) to (e) The territory of India presently comprises 25 States, besides Union territories. Details in this regard are available in the First Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Only 2 States, *viz.*, Punjab and Haryana, have a common capital at present. Each of the remaining States has its own capital. The question of a separate capital for Haryana is linked to the larger issue of transfer of Chandigarh to Punjab.

Lawyers Strike

†2834. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY :

SHRI ABANI ROY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the lawyers in the Capital are on strike and are continuously demanding suspension of erring police officials responsible for their alleged brutalities;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry have since taken any action against the erring police officials who lathi charged them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

† Original Notice of the question was received in Hindi.